



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

October 16, 2023

Dear Colleague,

Over the thirteen days since Speaker McCarthy was removed from the Speakership, we have heard presentations from many qualified candidates who are looking to succeed him. During this process, the House is unable to consider critical legislation such as our appropriations bills, securing our borders, and potential aid to our ally Israel during their war with the terror group, Hamas.

That is why today, I introduced a resolution that would elect the Honorable Patrick McHenry, Speaker Pro Tempore of the House of Representatives, to continue the People's work while we seek a new permanent Speaker of the House. Per the Parliamentarian, he is currently Speaker Pro Tempore by designation only. This limits his powers. By formally electing him, we as a body give him the power to move legislation to the floor for consideration.

The resolution makes it clear: Representative McHenry will serve as Speaker Pro Tempore of the House of Representatives no longer than November 17, 2023 or until a new Speaker is elected, whichever is earlier. November 17 is the same day that our current continuing resolution to fund the government expires. By electing Representative McHenry as Speaker Pro Tempore of the House of Representatives, the House will be able to hold votes necessary to fund the government beyond the expiration of our current fiscal year. Most importantly, and more broadly, we will be able to continue the work that the American people sent us here to do.

We can have a healthy debate about who should lead the House Republican Conference, and I will continue to engage in that debate with you. In the meantime, we have work to do that is in our nation's interest, both at home and abroad. I look forward to joining you in these efforts.

Sincerely,

Mike Kelly
Member of Congress